

Studying Populations Performance Task

Name: _____

Date: _____ Score: _____

Part 1: Populations of Beans in a jar

You will have a container of dried beans. Your goal is to determine the population size of the beans but you cannot remove the beans to count them. You may use any tool in your bin, but you cannot remove any beans from the container. You will have two minutes to figure out your bean population.

Prediction of bean population: _____

Actual bean population: _____

Part 2: Birth and Death rates

Suppose 1,600 snow geese died in the same year that 1,400 were born. What would the growth rate be for that year?

If the answer is a positive growth rate, what does that mean?

If the answer is a negative growth rate, what does that mean?

Part 3: Summer Job

In a Summer job working for an ecologist, you have been assigned to estimate the population of grasshoppers in a field. Propose a method and explain how you would carry out your plan.